#7

SFX: JANGLE
SFX: HHHN
!

AAH
AAA
I'LL HAVE YOUR BODY.
TASTE THE CONSEQUENCES OF BREAKING OUR CONTRACT!
SFX: BLOW
Have I died?
I can't move my body.
It hurts.
SFX: PANT PANT

Brother!
Karin.

Karin.
Enough, already.
I'm sorry.
All I've caused you is heartbreak.
Brother...?
You've been shackled, in order to become my replacement and achieve my dream.
No.
If you treat me kindly now,
Don't say those things.
BROTH-ER...
But it's fine if you stop giving it your all.
I'll start wanting to rely on you.

BE HAPPY, KARIN.
IT WAS FOOLISH OF ME TO SHALLOWLY THINK
THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RULE THE WORLD WITHOUT BLOODSHED
Brother...?
TAKE UP A SWORD AND KILL YOUR ENEMIES.
THAT'S THE FASTEST PATH TO PEACE...
TO WORLD DOMINATION
Brother...?

YOU'RE NOT MY BROTHER.
HE WOULDN'T SAY SUCH THINGS!
He wouldn't say that I should achieve his dream even if I had to shed blood.
You're not him!
NO.
SFX HAAH
SFX PUSH
HMPH.
I AM NOBU-NAGA!!
Don't try to deceive me!
SFX SWISH

AHHHHHHH!
STUBBORN WOMAN.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN HAVE A TASTE OF MY ETERNAL HELL FIRE!
SFX: ROAR
AHH...
NOBUNAGA-SAMA!
TCH... AAAHH!
HER HEALTH IS CERTAINLY ...!
HEY! ISN'T THERE SOMETHING WE CAN DO!?
HASN'T SHE BEEN SUFFERING FOR THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS ALREADY!?
THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO! IF YOU'RE A DOC, THEN BUNG OUT SOME SECRET MEDICINE!
HELP HER!
YOU'RE HER AIDE, AREN'T YOU!?
WON'T... LOSE...
SFX (LEFT): PANTS PANTS
SFX (RIGHT): HAAH HAAH

I WON'T LOSE TO A DEMON...
I'M GOING TO... GET RID OF... THE CONTRACT WITH YOU...

CON... TRACT...?

A DEMON?

I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT OWARI'S ODA NOBUNAGA IS SICK IN BED.
Northern Owari
Odani Castle

WHAT!?
ODA NOBUNAGA IS!?
YES SIR.
Head of the Azai Family
Azai Shinkurou
NEVERTHELESS, NOBUNAGA'S ABILITY TO GO AGAINST THE IMAGAWA ARMY WAS SPLENDID
IT WAS IMAGAWA'S ARMY OF 30,000 VERSUS ODA'S ARMY OF ONLY 2,000!
Can you believe it?
WE WERE ALSO CERTAIN THAT ODA WOULD BE DEFEATED...
NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
RATHER, I'M THE SAME. I FEEL ASHAMED THAT I'M ALSO SO IMPENETRABLE.

SHINKUROU-SAMA, YOU ARE A TACTICAL GENIUS!!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
smile
smile

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT HE FAILED TO TAKE IMAGAWA'S HEAD
BESIDES THAT, MOST IMPORTANTLY,

I'D LIKE TO GET TO MEET HIM AT LEAST ONCE
THAT PERSON IS STRONG
MY LORD, YOU ARE BEING TOO BLINDLY DEVOTED TO NOBUNAGA!
THAT'S SOMETHING I'VE ALSO CONSIDERED AT TIMES
KUWA
WAH

NO WAY!
WOULD IT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GO SEE HIM?
.....
SFX: CLAP CLAP
Then I should find some clue about the illness...
So if I can catch the foreigner who came to this church and question him,
Demons are something that was brought from the West.
HURRY UP,
AND LET NOBUNAGA-SAMA GET WELL!

慈悲深いのです。
"THEY HAVE LOTS OF COMPASSION
SFX: GASP
SFX: SNIFFLE
CHRISTIANS ARE REALLY KIND, HUH?
The leaders are good too.
BUT I DON'T KNOW THE SOURCE.
UMM, TRUTHFULLY, MY BELOVED LORD IS SUFFERING FROM AN ILLNESS,
HOW DREADFUL
A lost lamb...?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
He was lured in so quickly—!

SFX: STUNNED

IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SAY...?
YEAH, IT'S JUST...
glance
glance
THE LORD HAS BEEN MUMBLING ABOUT A "DEMON" AND A "CONTRACT"...

A DEMON?
IF, BY SOME CHANCE, YOU ARE SPEAKING OF NOBUNAGA-SAMA...
NO WAY, COULD IT BE THE FAULT OF THE CONTRACT BOX THAT I GAVE HIM...!?
TELL ME!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME AT THE TIME, I COMMITTED A SIN BY HANDING OVER THAT BOX...
... knows something.
SPEAK UP!!
He definitely knows something!
GASP
YOU GAVE HIM...
I've lured in a more important person than I expected!
I mean, this person is WAY too CARELESS!
GRAB
A CONTRACT?
WHAT KIND OF BOX ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
This guy...

"TN: I'm noting "him" here because though the priest knows Kanji is Nobunaga — well he can't possibly know that Hideyoshi knows as well

SFX: HSSH
SPEAK.
I'LL MAKE YOU TELL ME, EVEN IF I HAVE TO SLIT YOUR THROAT.
Mean-while,
At the Kose Castle...
SFX: SIGH

But...
Even though I can see her suffering right in front of me, I can't do a thing about it
Though I have given her my support, I can't do anything...
sigh...
SHE'S CALMED DOWN CONSIDERABLY, HASN'T SHE?
Karin-sama... Nobunaga-sama...
HE'S SO DEVOTED, ISN'T HE?

ISN'T HE--?
dreamy
JOUTAROU-SAMA HAS CONSTANTLY BEEN PRESENT
AND HE'S BEEN NURSING THE LORD'S ILLNESS WITHOUT REST
clip clip
SUCH LOYALTY IS AMAZING!
THAT'S REAL LOVE ISN'T IT?
OI, OI
BUUUT, HE HASN'T ALLOWED US TO HELP WITH THE MEALS OR EVEN WITH CHANGING THE LORD'S CLOTHES!
kyaah
kyaah
YOU'RE ALL JUST SAYING DUMB THINGS, AREN'T YOU?
Geez, you women.
WHAT IS IT!?
EXCUSE ME
IS THIS WHERE NOBUNAGA-SAMA IS?

!
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA!
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
sits up
THERE'S A DISTURBANCE OUTSIDE
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
PRETTY GOOD
?
WHAT'S THAT RUCKUS?
TURN
rustle
UH...UHH
IT'S A THIEF!
I'M NOT A SUSPICIOUS PERSON!
Right now, there's no sign of the demon around.
SFX: RABBLE RABBLE RABBLE
OI, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
!

I'VE FOUND YOU.
NOBUNAGA, THE ONE WHO I'VE LONG ADMIRED..
...!?

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF HIM!
twitch
YOU ARE ...?
YOU ARE NOBUNAGA-SAMA, CORRECT?
YOU MUST KNOW OF ME
YOU BAS-TARD!
WHO ARE YOU?
STATE YOUR NAME!
MY APOLOGIES
I WAS TOO HASTY
SFX SWISH

Azai Shinkurou!?
I CAME TO VISIT NOBUNAGA-SAMA WHILE HE WAS SICK IN BED
I AM AZAI SHINKUROU
NICE TO MEET YOU
Shinkurou is the head of the Azai family. Isn't he!?
He inherited the position when he was fifteen,
and repelled the six-sided army at the Battle of Norada.
He's a talented man who is said to be a genius.
Why has someone like him come here directly, and alone..?
IT WAS RUDE OF ME TO ACT WITHOUT ANYONE ELSE BEING AWARE MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES

I AM WORRIED ABOUT NOBUNAGA-SAMA'S CONDITION WITH ALL MY HEART.
THAT'S A PERSONAL MATTER!
I AM MATSUURA JOUTAROU RETAINER OF THE ODA FAMILY.
CAUTIOUS
FOR THE TIME BEING I AM LOOKING AFTER THE HEALTH OF THE LORD ODA NOBUNAGA
SHIN-KUROU-DONO
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA!

SFX GASP

YOU
PASSED OVER THE MOUNTAINS FROM OUMI ALONE ?
YES
I HAPPENED TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR HEALTH FROM MY RETAINERS AND THOUGH PRESUMPTUOUS, I RUSHED RIGHT OVER

IT WAS PROBABLY VERY RASH
BUT I AM HAPPY THAT I FINALLY GET TO MEET YOU
YOU EVEN CALLED ME BY MY NAME
I AM SO OVERJOYED THAT I WANT TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS COMPLETELY.
I AM SORRY,
BUT WHY DID THE LORD OF THE AZAI FAMLY COME HERE IN PERSON?
Are you trying to move in for a hug?
Damn right, I will
...BUT, I'LL RESTRAIN MYSELF. SINCE IT APPEARS THAT JOUTAROU-DONO WOULD SURELY CUT ME DOWN
I WANTED TO MEET NOBUNAGA-SAMA WITH ALL MY HEART...
IS THAT WRONG?

... Expressions and energy...
... Are both bold and serene.
So bright...
This person's...
SFX: SUAH
SFX: SUAH
Somehow, it's a bit similar to...
My brother.
JOUTA-ROU
IT'S FINE FOR YOU TO LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, ISN'T IT?
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A BAD PERSON.
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA!

I BROUGHT YOU SOME "GET WELL SOON" GIFTS.
OH, THAT REMINDS ME
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
Ah.
THIS IS GINSENG... IT'S GOOD FOR THE BODY.
AND THESE ARE PILLS FROM FUJI WHICH ARE EFFECTIVE ON ALL SORTS OF ILLNESSES.
That's...
hart-tle

SWEET THINGS ...
WILL HELP YOU RELAX
THAT'S CONFEITO *
*T/N: Colored sugar candy.
Shinkurou-san...
His words are considerate, and his eyes warm.
And his feet...
... are completely torn up from the journey here.

The young head of the Azai...
...was truly thinking of me from the bottom of his heart...
?
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA?
SHIN-KUROU-DONO...
THANK YOU.

What am I doing?
AH!
NO
I WASN'T ACTING VERY MUCH LIKE A SPLENDID ADULT MAN THERE, WAS I...?
I'M SORRY!
WAAAH!?
NOBU-NAGA-SAMAAA!
"Thank you" is not a phrase for a samurai.
However,

Those are very gentle words, aren't they?
I...
I REALLY LIKE YOU, NOBUNAGA-SAMA.
Besides that,
NOT ONLY DO YOU EXCEL IN BATTLE, BUT YOU ARE GOOD-NATURED AS WELL.

NOBUNAGA-SAMA
What...
...Is this indescribable
Emptiness?

A person so free of concerns is very beautiful...

For such a person...

*'Hi' in Japanese culture. when someone gives you a get-well gift. you need to give a gift to them when you are better

To look at me, someone who sold their soul to a demon,
with such sincere eyes, is so heart-breaking.
I BEG OF YOU.
NOBUNAGA-SAMA, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?
SFX NOD
WELL THEN,
I WILL TAKE THE "NAGA" OF YOUR NAME. FROM NOW ON, I WILL NOT BE "SHIN-KUROU."
I WILL BE CALLED AZAI NAGAMASA.

I WILL ENGRAVE THE NAME "AZAI NAGAMASA" INTO MY HEART TO SHOW OUR FRIENDSHIP
"Azai Nagamasa."
SFX SMILE
Thank you.

FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Sengoku Blood

by Hiroi Ohji (story) and Kosumi Fujiko (art)

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to help us with *Sengoku Blood*
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